
Preface

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Biographical notes: Luis Miguel Soria Morillo is a Computer Engineer, with a Master's in Software Engineering and Technology and Doctor Cum Laude (PhD program of excellence) in Computer Science from the University of Seville from 2011. He is a Lecturer and researcher at the University of Seville, in the Computer and Languages Systems Department. He has a solid research line focused on the application of intelligent techniques and machine learning in the fields of mobility, ubiquitous systems, and eHealth. He is currently working on mobile systems development, personalised medicine, and computer vision algorithms. He also has published several patents and software registrations generated from these works, which demonstrates the practical orientation of the conducted research.

Alessandra De Benedictis is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology of the University of Naples Federico II, where she received her PhD in Computer and Automation Engineering in 2013. She has been working for few years on the design and evaluation of secure architectures for the protection of distributed resource-constrained devices (wireless sensor networks and embedded systems in general). She has recently started analysing the security issues existing in the cloud environment, by investigating novel solutions for the enforcement of security through the adoption of service level agreements.

Anna Lina Ruscelli is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Institute of Communication, Information and Perception Technologies (TeCIP) of Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa where she received her PhD on Innovative Technologies in 2011 with a thesis on quality of service for wireless networks. Her research interests are in railways communication and management systems, energy harvesting for railways, quality of service support over wireless networks, and scheduling algorithms. She was a TCP member and reviewer of many international conferences. She is involved in many Italian research projects (SR-Secure, REC Visio).

Embedded systems have replaced PCs in recent years for concrete tasks in specific contexts. The worldwide market for embedded systems is around 160 billion euros, with an annual growth of 9%. Thanks to the wide variety of systems and sensors that these devices can integrate, the range of environments where they are used has grown and grown in the last decade. This special issue includes a set of works in which authors use embedded systems as the central core of the functionality sought. Among them, we can find articles

related to eHealth and the processing of clinical data, such as EEG data, to systems used in the vehicle itself improving the driving experience, increasing safety in travel, and making drivers aware of energy efficiency importance while driving. Last but not least, some papers are more oriented to creating protocols and architectures optimised for certain contexts, such as in the internet of things or at the network level.